

What is claimed is:

1. A submersible pumping system for pumping wellbore fluid, comprising:  
a motor assembly;  
a pump assembly connected to the motor assembly; and  
5 a shroud assembly attached to the pump assembly, the shroud assembly,  
comprising:  
a shroud having a connection end and an intake end, wherein the shroud  
at least partially encloses the motor assembly;  
a sealing ring that prevents the wellbore fluid from entering the shroud at  
10 the connection end; and  
a retaining ring that holds the sealing ring in place.
2. The submersible pumping system of claim 1, wherein the pump assembly  
further comprises a pump intake and the shroud is attached to the pump intake.  
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3. The submersible pumping system of claim 1, wherein the sealing ring  
comprises a sealing aperture whereby a cable can extend through the sealing aperture to  
the motor assembly.
- 20 4. The submersible pumping system of claim 1, wherein the sealing ring is  
formed of an elastomer material.

5. The submersible pumping system of claim 1, wherein the pump assembly is situated above the motor assembly and draws the wellbore fluid along the motor assembly.

5 6. The submersible pumping system of claim 5, wherein the shroud extends below the motor assembly.

7. The submersible pumping system of claim 1, wherein the retaining ring is attached to the pump assembly.

10 8. The submersible pumping system of claim 1, wherein the shroud is formed of sheet metal.

9. A shroud assembly for use with a pump assembly and a motor assembly  
15 for use in pumping wellbore fluid, the shroud assembly comprising:

a shroud having a connection end and an intake end, wherein the shroud at least partially encloses the motor assembly;

a sealing ring that prevents the wellbore fluid from entering the shroud at the connection end; and

20 a retaining ring that holds the sealing ring in place.

10. The shroud assembly of claim 9, wherein the pump assembly further comprises a pump intake and the shroud is attached to the pump intake.

11. The shroud assembly of claim 9, wherein the sealing ring comprises a sealing aperture whereby a cable can extend through the sealing aperture to the motor assembly.

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12. The shroud assembly of claim 9, wherein the sealing ring is formed of an elastomer material.

13. The shroud assembly of claim 9, wherein the pump assembly is situated above the motor assembly and draws the wellbore fluid along the motor assembly.

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14. The shroud assembly of claim 13, wherein the shroud extends below the motor assembly.

15. The shroud assembly of claim 9, wherein the retaining ring is attached to the pump assembly.

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16. The shroud assembly of claim 9, wherein the shroud is formed of sheet metal.

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17. A submersible pumping system for pumping wellbore fluid, comprising:
- a motor assembly;
  - a pump assembly connected to the motor assembly;
  - a shroud assembly having a connection end, wherein the shroud assembly at least partially encloses the motor assembly; and
- means for preventing the flow of wellbore fluid through the connection end.